

**Commonwealth of Virginia
State Board of Social Services**

**Department of Social Services
801 East Main Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219**

February 15, 2017

Attending: Mr. Darrell Jordan (Chair), Dr. Danny Avula (Vice-Chair), Ms. Veronica Washington (Secretary), Ms. Joan Brennan, Mr. Willie Greene, Mr. John Kines, Ms. Mona Malik, Mr. Kent Willis.

Absent: Ms. Lou Ali, Ms. MaryAnn Boyd, Mr. Clyde Santana

Also in Attendance: Ms. Margaret Ross Schultze (Commissioner), Ms. Ellen Malenke (Assistant Attorney General).

Meeting called to order at 10:05am – Mr. Jordan

Review of Agenda – Ms. Karin Clark, Regulatory Coordinator

Comments from the Commissioner – Ms. Margaret Ross Schultze
Commissioner Schultze shared that it is very busy time for the department due to the General Assembly and thanked the team for their work. She recognized Karin Clark for her leadership in tracking the agency bills while also planning the Board meeting. Commissioner Schultze provided an overview of the 2017 bills being monitored by the department. Handouts were provided.

Department of Social Services Budget Overview – J.R. Simpson gave a presentation on the Department of Social Services budget. Handouts were provided.

Division of Benefit Programs Overview/April Regulatory Actions – Tom Steinhauser gave an overview of the Division of Benefit Programs, which included preliminary information on regulatory actions scheduled for the April 2017 meeting. Handouts were provided.

Standards for Licensed Assisted Living Facilities – Tara Ragland gave a presentation on Standards for Licensed Assisted Living Facilities focused on the final regulation scheduled for Board action later in the meeting. Handouts were provided.

COMMENT PERIOD

Comment from the Public

Dana Parsons – Leading Age VA

Ms. Parsons thanked the department on behalf of the Virginia's Facilities Association, the Virginia Health Care Association, and Leading Age Virginia for working well with them regarding the new comprehensive regulations for assisted living.

Jane Jones – Early Challenges Child Care

Ms. Jones addressed her concerns about how Virginia is implementing the federal Child Care and Development Fund Block Grant and spoke specifically to the requirements for CPR certification for all staff.

Bonny Hartle, Tracey Pompey, and Pat Garner

Ms. Hartle, Ms. Pompey, and Ms. Garner shared their concerns about staffing in specialized care units in assisted living facilities.

Kim Hulcher – The Virginia Child Care Association

Ms. Hulcher reported that she continues to receive calls on the upcoming child care regulation, most specifically the CPR/first aid requirement and group size.

Courtney Tierney

Ms. Tierney strongly supports the changes contained in the final Assisted Living regulation currently under Board consideration.

There were no comments from local boards and directors of social services.

There were no comments from boards and directors of community action agencies.

***Comments from the Virginia League of Social Service Executives* – Cathy Pemberton, Chair**

Ms. Pemberton shared she is watching many bills for the 2017 session, one of which pertains to firearms in local shelters. She is appreciative of Mike Gump, the department's CFO, for working with the League on additional child welfare funding. Ms. Pemberton is also making sure local staff is adequately trained in child welfare, but noted that a glitch in the automated training certification system could result in many long-time experienced staff having to take additional training. She noted the successful wrap-up of the VaCMS.

Regulatory Update – Karin Clark, Regulatory Coordinator

There were no new regulatory updates.

Child Care Program/April Regulatory Action – Barb Newlin provided preliminary information on proposed changes to the Child Care Program regulation, scheduled for consideration at the April 2017 Board meeting. Handouts were provided.

ACTION ITEMS

- 1. Approve December 2016 minutes**
On Motion Duly Made, (Dr. Avula), second (Mr. Greene), motion approved with all in favor.
- 2. Resolution to Recognize March 2017 as Social Work Month**
On Motion Duly Made, (Ms. Malik), second (Mr. Greene), motion approved with all in favor.
- 3. Resolution to Recognize April 2017 as Office Services Support Appreciation Month**
On Motion Duly Made, (Mr. Greene), second (Mr. Willis), motion approved with all in favor.

4. 22VAC40-72, Standards for Licensed Assisted Living Facilities – Final Regulation

On Motion Duly Made, (Mr. Greene), second (Ms. Washington), motion approved with all in favor, with the Commissioner’s commitment to bring back the provision regarding staffing for special care units in a future Board action.

Board Member & Chair Comments

Mr. Kines thought it was an interesting meeting and enjoyed the overview of the programs. He would like to look further into the requirements of the CPR training.

Mr. Greene feels like 100% of employees required to have CPR training is excessive. He enjoyed all the presentations and thought the information in the past on immigration and refugees were very helpful especially in current times.

Mr. Willis thought the finance presentation was very rewarding.

Ms. Malik thought it was an interesting meeting and was happy to hear about HB2156. She got a better grasp from the finance presentation and asked that the rates for Fairfax County to be reprinted because the percentages did not equal 100%. Ms. Malik applauded and thanked the Attorney General’s office for their work on the Governor’s Executive Order regarding the federal ban and its impact on Virginia.

Ms. Washington thanked Karin for her diligence. She was thankful for the conversation and information about children born with methamphetamines, and she was glad to hear about kinship assistance. Ms. Washington thought the reports were excellent. Ms. Washington shared Bridges Out of Poverty is working well in the Lynchburg area but would like to see the consumers be involved.

Ms. Brennan thought the presentations were excellent, in particular the Assisted Living Facilities presentation, she commented staff is working above and beyond to assist older residents. Ms. Brennan is interested in reading the federal block grant to get a better understanding.

Dr. Avula thought it was an interesting meeting and he felt like he learned a lot. Dr. Avula appreciated the questions asked by the Board and the level of engagement. Dr. Avula encouraged Board members to do their homework before the April meeting.

Mr. Jordan thanked the people who came and commented during the public comment. Mr. Jordan reiterated the Board is not a rubber stamp, he encouraged the Board to do their homework and look into policies. Mr. Jordan thanked the Commissioner for providing information and encouraged Board members to meet with folks in their areas and meet with their legislators.

Meeting adjourned at 3:05pm.